

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed May 7, 2007, and thanks Examiner Sharp for the detailed review of the pending claims. Applicants especially thank Examiner Sharp for indicating that claims 8-10 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In the present amendment, Applicant has amended claims 9-10 and 17-18, cancelled claims 8 and 14, and added new claims 19-20. However, by way of this amendment, no new matter has been added. Claims 1, 6-7, 11, 13, and 16 were previously cancelled. Accordingly, claims 2-5, 9-10, 15 and 17-20 remain pending in this application. At least for the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully traverses the foregoing rejections. Further, Applicant believes that there are also reasons other than those set forth below why the pending claims are patentable, and reserves the right to set forth those reasons, and to argue for the patentability of claims not explicitly addressed herein, in future papers. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Allowed Claims and Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8-10 and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowable subject matter. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 19. Claims 9-10 have been amended to depend from new claim 19. Claim 12 has been rewritten in independent form as new claim 20. Withdrawal of the objection is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 2-5, 15, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wright (U.S. Pat. No. 3,144,256). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

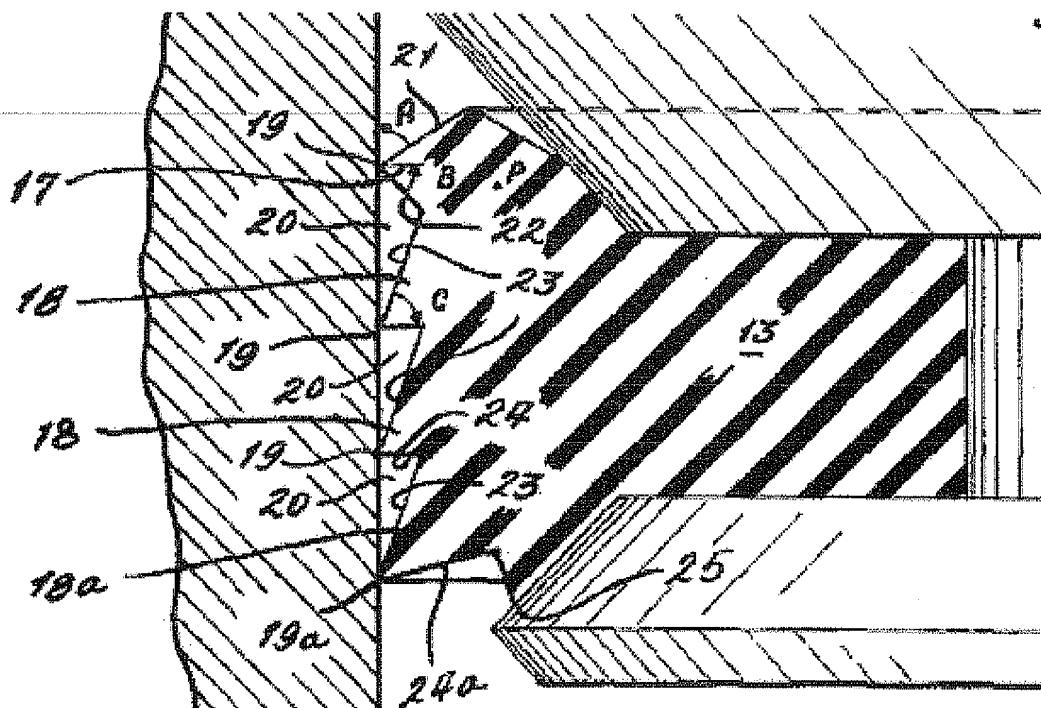
1. The Law

To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

2. Independent Claims 17 and 18

Applicant notes that independent claims 17 and 18 have been amended to include the recitation of “wherein said projection includes an outer surface that is substantially parallel to a wall of a surrounding cylinder,” (emphasis added). Support for the newly added recitation can be found, for example, in paragraph [0022] of the specification.

Wright does not teach all of the recitations found in amended claims 17 and 18, therefore, Wright cannot anticipate independent claims 17 and 18. Applicant specifically draws attention to column 3, lines 17-21 and FIG. 1 of Wright (reproduced below for the Examiner’s convenience) of Wright to illustrate that Wright teaches a sealing lip 17 where “the lubricant control lip surface 21 defines an angle of about 60° with the vertical (angle A of FIG. 1) and the bottom surface 22 defines an angle of about 45° with the horizontal,” (emphasis added). Thus, as may be seen, Wright does not teach a projection that includes “an outer surface that is substantially parallel to a wall of a surrounding cylinder.” Indeed, as best seen by FIG. 1 below, the sealing lip 17 includes surfaces 21 and 22 that are angled from the horizontal (emphasis added). Accordingly, Wright does not teach every recitation of independent claims 17 and 18, as required by *Verdegaal Bros.*



3. Dependent Claims 2-5, 9-10 and 15

Dependent claims 2-5, 9-10 and 15 are also patentable at least by being dependent on allowable base claims 17 and 18, although the claims include recitations that also define over the prior art of record. Merely by way of example, claim 2 recites "wherein said outer surface of said generally rectangular projection is substantially parallel to a wall of a surrounding cylinder," which is not taught in the prior art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. If, however, there are any outstanding issues that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is earnestly encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 66774-0005 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

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